

# **Internet and copyright**

## **Abstract**

The subject of this thesis is Internet and copyright which I consider to be a very topical issue according to the significant impact Internet has on the everyday life of the today's society and also on the development of copyright law. The aim of the thesis is to highlight the challenges copyright law is currently facing on account of the technological development, and to describe copyright issues on the Internet and social media which represent a specific field of intellectual property rights.

The thesis is divided into six chapters and subdivided into subchapters and sections. The first chapter highlights a significance of the Internet in today's society, and it briefly outlines its evolution in time. The second chapter describes the historical development of copyright law, it explains basic copyright principles and the assignment of copyright to intellectual property rights, and it summarizes the sources of copyright law. The third chapter is devoted to basic copyright terms, and it aims to allow a closer understanding of the copyright.

The fourth chapter analyzes the legal protection of copyright works, and it sums up the legal means of protection which belong to the author according to private and public law. This chapter deals with the phenomenon of social media and with the user-generated content. It briefly explains the issue of determining the applicable law, and it deals with the content of license agreements concluded between social media sites and their users. The last – sixth – chapter subsequently ruminates the possible development of copyright law in the future.

The conclusion of the thesis includes the author's assessment of the current state of copyright law, and it also summarizes the challenges copyright is facing in relation to the Internet and social media.

**Key words: internet, copyright, social media**